

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-93 are currently being prosecuted. Claims 94-177 have been canceled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that the claims 1-93 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph rejection. By the way of the present amendment, Applicants have made changes to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, Applicants submit that all the claims are in condition for allowance.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph

The Examiner pointed out that the term “and/or” indicates that the two alternatives are A, B, C, D or E. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have rephrased the last two steps of the claim to indicate that at least one of these two steps are performed. Thus, there are now three possible alternatives, namely ABCD1, ABCD2 or ABCD1D2. Applicants submit that the present phrasing makes this statement clear. The Examiner also question why the absolute mean pressure is determined and what relevance it has to the claimed method since it is not used in either of the matrices. While it is true that claim 1 does not use the parameter directly, it is involved in the number of the dependent claims, including claims 20, 23, 24, 59 and 82. However, to make this more clear, Applicants have removed the reference to the absolute mean pressure in claim 1 and have instead inserted it into the appropriate dependent claims. Accordingly, Applicants submit that this phrasing is correct.

Applicants have also made a few additional changes to correct a misspelling in claim 93, to use the correct term “selectable” in claims 5 and 6 and to use the correct term “pressure measurements” in claim 75-78. Applicants submit that these additional changes also help to place the application in better form.

Conclusion

In view of the Examiner's indication of allowability, it is believed that the claims now are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert F. Gnuse Reg. No. 27,295 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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